

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL GRENADA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 144705

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO SANTIAGO FROM QUITO
JUNE 22:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 4103

DEPARTMENT PASS USDEL USOASGA GRENADA

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PORG, OAS. EC, CI, SHUM

SUBJECT: OASGA HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION

REF: QUITO 4080

1. FOREIGN MINISTER AYALA CALLED ME THIS AFTERNOON IN
RESPONSE TO YESTERDAY'S DEMARCHE ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION
(REFTEL). AYALA SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT FIRST COMMITTEE
HAD APPOINTED A WORKING GROUP ON DRAFT RESOLUTION. ALTHOUGH
ECUADOR WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE WORKING GROUP, HE HAD GIVEN
INSTRUCTIONS TO AMB. LOERO TO FOLLOW THE WORK CLOSELY. AYALA
INDICATED THAT LEORO HAD ALREADY EXPRESSED GOE POINT OF VIEW
ABOUT ITS BASIC PRINCIPLES REGARDING THE DRAFT. AYALA
STATED THAT ECUADOR SOUGHT AN ECLECTIC AAPP PPPPPROACH IN THE DRAFT
WHICH WOULD AVOID A SPLIT BEWTWEEN THE SOUTHERN CONE AND US
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GROUP. HE OBSERVED THAT THE US SPONSORED DRAFT AS IT STANDS
NOW SEEMS ACCEPTAABLE EXCEPT FOR PARAGRAPH C REARDING VISITS.
HE SUGGESTED THAT THE LANGUAGE MIGHT HAVE TO BE TONED DOWN TO
OBTAIN EUCADOREAN BACKING. ON THE OTHER HAND , ECUADOR HAD NO
WISH TO UNDERMINE THE IAHC, AND INDEED WISHED TO
STRENGTHEN IT.

2. FOLLOWING MY DEMARCHE YESTERDAY, POLCOUNSELOR AND NAVATT MADE PARALLEL APPROACH ON ADMIRAL RENAN OLMEDO, CHIEF OF ARMED FORCES JOINT COMMAND, WHO HAS TAKEN A LIVELY INTEREST IN GOE'S MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY, ESPECIALLY WHERE IT MIGHT AFFECT ECUADORS SECURITY INTEREST. DURING HIS PRESENTATION, POLCOUNSELOR POINTED OUT, INTER ALIA, THAT OASGA HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION WAS EMERGING JUST WHEN SPECIFIC GOE SECURITY ASSISTANCE REQUESTS WERE BEING CONSIDERED FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF OUR NEW ARMS TRANSFER POLICY. ALTHOUGH ECUADORS PERFORMANCE IN INTERNATIONAL FORA WAS ONLY ONE OF THE FACETS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP, POLCOUNSELOR NOTED THAT HE KNEW FROM PAST CONVERSATIONS WITH OLMEDO THAT HE WAS AWARE OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO A FAVORABLE BILATERAL ATMOSPHERE. OLMEDO ACKNOWLEDGED THIS. OLMEDO REPLIED THAT ECUADOR WISHED TO GIVE THE US ITS FULL SUPPORT IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD BECAUSE IT BELIEVED THAT THE US APPROACH WAS FUNDAMENTALLY SOUND. AT THE SAME TIME, HE SAID, ECUADOR HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE SENSITIVITIES OF THE SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY CHILE, WHICH WERE VITAL TO HIS COUNTRY'S SECURITY IN FACE OF THE PERUVIAN ARMS BUILD-UP. NONETHELESS, HE SAID, ECUADOR WOULD HAVE HAD NO DIFFICULTY IN PUTTING THESE CONSIDERATIONS ASIDE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES EXCEPT FOR

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ONE PRESSING PROBLEM: THERE WOULD BE A "HIGH LEVEL" VISIT TO CHILE (HE HINTED THAT SUPREME COUNCIL PRESIDENT POVEDA HIMSELF WOULD BE THE VISITOR) AND ECUADOR WANTED TO DO NOTHING WHICH MIGHT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE SUCCESS OF THAT VISIT.

3. POLCOUNSELOR ASSURED OLMEDO THAT US HAD NO WISH TO SINGLE OUT CHILE OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY FOR CONDEMNATION IN THE RESOLUTION. OUR BASIC GOAL WAS TO STRENGTHEN THE IAHRC. OLMEDO REPEATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE US WITHOUT HARMING THE ECUADOR-CHILE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP ON THE EVE OF THE TRIP. AT THAT POINT, OLMEDO TELEPHONED POVEDA (WHO WAS ILL IN BED) AND ASKED TO SEE HIM IN 15 MINUTES CONCERNING THE PROBLEM. INSTEAD, POVEDA REQUESTED HIM TO SEE HIM EARLY THE NEXT MORNING.

4. COMMENT: ECUADOR SEEMS TO BE FACED WITH A DILEMA IN BALANCING OUT ITS PRINCIPLES, ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US AND CHILE. AS AYALA'S UNCERTAIN REPLY INDICATES, GOE, AFTER WRESTLING WITH PROBLEM ALL DAY AND TALKING TO GRENADA, HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM. HOWEVER, AS AYALA ALSO INDICATED, ECUADOR, WHILE NOT WILLING TO SUPPORT ALL OF CURRENT WORKING DRAFT, SEEMS

TO BE LEANING STRONGLY TOWARD A POSITION WHICH WOULD
ENDORSE A FORTIFIED IAHC.

5. PLEASE PROTECT FACT THAT WE MADE A BACK-DOOR APPROACH
TO MILITARY ON THIS PROBLEM. BLOOMFIELD UNQUOTE VANCE

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